

Social Studies Update

Highlights:

- [Iowa Social Studies Update](#)
- [Literacy Corner](#)
- [Social Studies News](#)
- [Social Studies Resources](#)
- [Professional Development](#)
- [Social Studies Awards, Grants, and Competitions](#)
- [Observance Days](#)

Check Out:

- [The C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards](#)
- [Social Studies "Agora" Site](#)
-Click on social studies
- [Social Studies Google Calendar](#)
- [Iowa Social Studies on Twitter](#)
- [Iowa Social Studies on Diigo](#)
- [Iowa Department of Education Social Studies Page](#)

Questions?

Contact Stefanie Wager, social studies consultant at the Iowa Department of Education, at stefanie.wager@iowa.gov or 515-725-7842

Iowa Social Studies Update

Medal of Honor Foundation Workshop

The Medal of Honor Foundation will be coming to Des Moines on June 26th for a one-day workshop. Their materials include lesson plans on each of the Medal of Honor recipients and a short video clip introducing that recipient. Each lesson is centered around an element of good character. This workshop will be free for any 6-12 teacher who is interested. In addition to receiving FREE materials, the Foundation will be providing breakfast and lunch and sending a master teacher and Medal of Honor recipient to put on the workshop. For more information and to register click [here](#).



Iowa Council for the Social Studies Conference

The Iowa Council for the Social Conference takes place October 6th, in the evening, and all day on October 7th at the Prairie Meadows Conference Center in Altoona, IA. The 2014 is Sailing the Cs: Getting to the Core with Social Studies. The Cs include creativity, the (Iowa) Core, College and Career Readiness, Civics, the C3 Framework, Collaboration, Connection (technology) and Critical Thinking.

Professor Bob Bain (University of Michigan) will serve as one of our keynote speakers. Bob is well known in the history arena as one of

the "gurus" in promoting effective teaching in history through the "Cs." Scott McCleod will be the lunch keynote speaker. To submit a session proposal go [here](#). Proposals will be accepted until June 1st.

Registration is also open! To register go to www.iowasocialstudies.org.



SAVE THE DATE!

Questions? Contact Stefanie Wager at stefanie.wager@iowa.gov.

Literacy Corner: Sourcing

Sourcing, or thinking about the author/creator of a text, is a skill that should be developed in every social studies classroom.

Sourcing should be done BEFORE students start reading/analyzing text. Getting students to first think about the source of what they are reading is critically important. This sets the stage for the reading of the text and informs the reader throughout the reading of the text.

Additionally, the information gleaned from sourcing informs the historical analysis of the text

for the reader. For example, if a student reads a text written in the year 2000 by a soldier in WWII, it might have less "weight" than one written during the War.

The role of the author plays into the analysis as well. For example, if students are reading primary sources from George Washington and Charles Cornwallis, knowing their allegiances during the American Revolution would be critically important in informing the reader BEFORE they start reading the text.

Possible sourcing questions include:

- Who was the author/creator of this text and what was their role in the event?
- What credentials does the author/creator have that make this a credible source?
- When was the text created in relation to the time of the events?
- Who was the intended audience of the text?
- What was the intended purpose of the text?

Social Studies News

Hoover Library Featured on National Archives Blog

Elizabeth Dinschel, the education specialist at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, recently published an article entitled, "How Do We Keep History Relevant and Exciting?"

The article discusses the new America's First Ladies exhibit that opened April 16 at the Hoover Museum and discusses the recent research done by the Museum around some Hoover artifacts. Check it out at <http://blogs.archives.gov/education/2014/04/15/how-do-we-keep-history-relevant-and-exciting/>

Iowa Teacher Featured in C3 Framework Blog

Brady Weber, a social studies teacher in the West Des Moines school district, recently published an article on the C3 Framework blog entitled, "Did the Founders Want Government to Work? A C3 and Iowa Core Inquiry." Check out the article by going to <http://www.c3teachers.org/brady-weber/2014/3/23/did-the-founders-want-government-to-work-a-c3-and-common-core-inquiry>.

Student News Net Publishes Story on National History Day in Iowa

Student News Net, a nationally recognized student news source, recently visited and published a story about the State of Iowa competition for National History Day (NHD). Thirty-four Iowa students are heading to the national NHD competition. Click [here](#) to check out the story. Username: DemoA Password: snn

Social Studies Resources

News Literacy Project

The News Literacy Project is an innovative national educational program that mobilizes seasoned journalists to work with educators to teach students how to sort fact from fiction. Their website contains many educational resources around media "smarts" and how to help students navigate the world of media literacy. Check out their site at www.thenewsliteracyproject.org.

National Park Service Resources

The National Park Service (NPS) lists parks with curriculum-based education programs that are online as well as on the ground. Check out www.nps.gov/learn/curriculum.cfm for more information. In addition, the NPS Discover History website is www.cr.nps.gov.

California History/Social Science Project

The California History/ Social Science Project has several publications available for download. These include: The Challenges of Teaching World History, Civic Learning, Teaching the Cold War, Investigating History and Point of View/Perspective. Check them out [here](#).

" Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

-Confucius

National Geographic's Big Cats Initiative

Join UNI's TC and the Geographic Alliance of Iowa in supporting Big Cats! National Geographic's Big Cats Initiative (BCI) is an effort committed to saving lions, tigers, cheetahs, and other big cats in the wild. The goal of the initiative is the long-term survival of big cats by reducing threats, such as poaching and snaring, keeping the peace between cats and local farmers, and community outreach and engagement. The Big

Cats Initiative (BCI) is a great resource for both geography and science, teaching students about conservation and human-environment interaction. It can also be used as a class fundraising project to show students that they can make a difference in the world.

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/big-cats-initiative/>

National Geographic Education also has activities and videos about big

cats that are specifically designed for grades 5-12. All student activities are standards-based and have been vetted by educators.

http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/big-cats/?ar_a=1



Professional Development

FREE Holocaust Webinar

The Iowa Council on Holocaust Education invites teachers and administrators to participate in a webinar about Art Spiegelman's novel, *Maus*. University of Northern Iowa professors, Stepeh Gaies and Harry Brod, both of whom have extensive experience in teaching the novel, will share insights about this impactful piece of literature. **The webinar is FREE of charge and will be offered Tuesday, May 20 from 6-7.** To register, click [here](#).



Geographic Alliance of Iowa Offering Several Summer Workshops

The Geographic Alliance of Iowa, in cooperation with the University of Northern Iowa, is offering over 10 workshops this summer. Offerings include: Geography, Technology, and the Iowa Core and Teaching AP Human Geography, among many others. Credit is available for many courses. For more information click [here](#).

Iowa Center for Economic Education Offers Scholarships for Summer Workshop

The Iowa Center for Economic Education at Dordt College is sponsoring FOUR \$500 scholarships for a workshop entitled, "The Institute on the Environment & the Economy." The workshop takes place in McCall, Idaho August 4-7. Most expenses during the workshop will also be covered. Graduate and license renewal credit will also be available. For more information click [here](#) or contact Erica Vonk at 712-722-6341.

#SSCHAT on Twitter

Each Monday night at 6 pm Central on Twitter, using the hashtag #sschat, there is a social studies chat with educators from around the world. A different question is discussed each week.



Eisenhower Academy

The Eisenhower Academy for teachers presents an in-depth perspective of 1950s America and the Eisenhower Presidency. Field trips, lectures, and new scholarship on the 1950s, Eisenhower, and the Cold War will be presented. The workshop takes place July 6-11 at the Eisenhower National Historic Site & Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, PA. For more information go to www.nps.gov/eise.

Dar al Islam FREE Teacher's Institute

Dar al Salam's free teachers' institute, "Understanding Islam and Muslims," will be held July 30-August 9, 2014 in Abiquiu, New Mexico. All expenses are paid by Dar al Salam except for travel to Albuquerque. Applications are accepted until May 15th. Go to www.daralislam.org for more information.

NYSE Euronext Teachers' Workshops (Summer 2014)

NYSE Euronext offers professional development programs to help educators teach students about the financial marketplace and its importance in their lives and the global economy. Go [here](#) for more information.

National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference

The National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Annual Conference takes place November 21-23 in Boston, MA. The conference theme is the Civic Mission of Schools. Keynote speakers

include Ken Burns, Henry Louis Gates Jr., and Eric Foner, to name a few. For more information or to register click [here](#).



Social Studies Awards, Grants, and Competitions

Living History Farms Teacher of the Year Award

Living History Farms is seeking nominees for their 5th Annual LHF Teacher of the Year Award. The recipient of the award receives a plaque, an invitation to join the LHF Education Advisory Committee, free admission to Farmstasia and free admission for up to 50 of their students to Living History Farms.

For more information or to nominate someone for this award click [here](#).

National Council for the Social Studies Seeks Nominees for Outstanding Social Studies Teacher of the Year

Do you know an outstanding social studies teacher? NCSS is now accepting nominations in the categories of elementary, middle level and secondary. Nominees receive:

- \$2,500 cash prize
- Up to \$500 to attend the

2014 NCSS Annual Conference

- 2014 Annual Conference presentation session
- Complimentary 1 year NCSS membership

The nomination deadline is May 31, 2014.

Go [here](#) for more information or to submit a nomination.

Observance Day Resources

Memorial Day

- Literature Connections:
 - The Wall* by Eve Bunting
 - The Lotus Seed* by Sherry Garland
 - The Memory Coat* by Elvira Woodruff

Check out a lesson plan about these literature connections [here](#).

Law Day

- Law Day is a special day to celebrate the rule of law. The day underscores how law

and legal process contribute to the freedoms that all Americans share. Resources include:

- [Interactive Constitution](#)
- [Constitution Hall Pass](#)
- [Separation of Powers](#)

“My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.”
-John F. Kennedy